

ACTIVITIES



CELEBRATE & THANK YOUR STAFF USING NATIONAL HOLIDAYS

2025 | November

Brought to you by your pals at

alpaca



USE NATIONAL HOLIDAYS AS PART OF YOUR CELEBRATION PLAN EACH MONTH

Using national holidays as a way to celebrate your staff makes it easy for school leaders to show appreciation and create a positive atmosphere. These holidays provide ready-made themes and fun, engaging ways to recognize and reward your team.

Celebrating together boosts morale and reinforces a supportive work environment by reminding staff of their value within the school community.

Try out the holidays and ideas we've put together to make your staff feel special and appreciated throughout the year.



TIPS & TRICKS



- * **Plan Ahead:** Look over the national holiday calendar and decide which holidays you want to celebrate. Choose just a few or do them all... it's totally up to you! Share a monthly calendar with your staff in advance. This way everyone can be prepared and excited for the monthly celebrations.
- * **Budget Considerations:** Set a budget for each celebration and consider asking your PTO or other funding sources for support. This ensures you can provide adequate resources without overspending.
- * **Delegate Responsibilities:** After selecting the holidays you wish to celebrate, divide tasks among a committee or other school leaders to ensure everything runs smoothly. Need signs or tags? Use our printable decorations to add festive flair to the environment.
- * **Encourage Participation:** Invite staff to contribute to the celebrations by bringing in items related to the theme. For example, for National Root Beer Float Day, certain grade levels can bring ice cream while others bring cups and spoons.
- * **Gather Feedback:** After a few celebrations, ask your staff for feedback on what they enjoyed and what could be improved. This will help you plan even better celebrations in the future.





DIRECTIONS

- 1. Set your calendar for the month, identifying which holidays you will celebrate as a school.
2. Discuss with your leadership team, or staff well-being committee, and assign responsibilities for planning and execution. Determine what supplies or decorations are needed, and use our printable signs and/or tags below!
3. Send a reminder to your staff about the upcoming holiday celebration. Include details about the location, timing, and any items they need to bring or prepare for the activity. 
4. The day before the celebration, double-check that everything is ready. Purchase any necessary supplies and set out decorations, gifts, or any other items in advance to ensure a smooth event.
5. Have fun! Celebrate your team and enjoy the national holiday festivities together! 

NOVEMBER 2025

NATIONAL HOLIDAYS TO
CELEBRATE YOUR STAFF

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
03 National Sandwich Day	04	05 National Donut Day	06	07
10 National Scrabble Day	11 Veterans Day	12	13 National Kindness Day	14 National Pickle Day
17	18 National Apple Cider Day	19	20	21
24	25	26 National Cake Day	27 Thanksgiving	28



ALL NOVEMBER: NATIONAL FUN WITH FONDUE MONTH

"We're fond(ue) of everything you do—Thanks for being amazing!"

Ideas to try:

- Host a fondue party during lunch with cheese, chocolate, and caramel fondues, and ask your staff to bring in dippable foods (fruit, pretzels, marshmallows, etc.) for everyone to sample!
- Organize a "Fondue Friday" where different grade levels or teams bring in items to share for dipping each week, while administration provides the fondue! Your staff will love mixing it up each week and trying all the different combinations!

ALL NOVEMBER: NATIONAL GRATITUDE MONTH

"Our gratitude for you is endless—Thank you for all that you do!"

Ideas to try:

- Create a "Gratitude Tree" where staff can hang notes of appreciation for each other throughout the month.
 - Send handwritten thank-you notes to each staff member, recognizing something specific you're grateful for. Use our [printable templates](#)!
 - Organize weekly "Gratitude Shout-Outs" where staff recognize each other's efforts during announcements or meetings.
- 



NOVEMBER 3RD: NATIONAL SANDWICH DAY

"Thanks for always stacking up—You're the best part of our school!"

Ideas to try:

- Set up a "Build Your Own Sandwich" bar with a variety of breads, meats, and toppings so staff can create their perfect lunch.
- Celebrate staff with sandwich-themed gift cards like Jimmy Johns, Panera, or Subway!

NOVEMBER 5TH: NATIONAL DONUT DAY

"We donut know what we'd do without you—Thanks for everything!"

Ideas to try:

- Treat staff to a donut breakfast or deliver them to your staff in the morning as a way to say thank you for all their hard work!
 - Leave donut-shaped stress balls or keychains in their mailboxes as a fun reminder of your appreciation.
 - Hide plastic mini donuts around the school and ask your staff to collect any they find. At the end of the day, the staff member with the most wins a gift card to a local donut shop!
- 



NOVEMBER 10TH: NATIONAL SCRABBLE DAY

"Thanks for spelling success every day—We appreciate you!"

Ideas to try:

- Set up a few Scrabble games in the lounge for teachers to play throughout the day—a fun way to connect and have a little fun!
- Play a Staff Scramble Challenge to encourage your staff to connect and mingle throughout the day!

NOVEMBER 11TH: VETERANS DAY

"Honoring the heroes in our school—Thank you for your service!"

Ideas to try:

- Ask staff to provide photos and brief stories of their family members or friends who have served in the military. Create cards featuring each veteran's photo, name, relationship to the staff member, and a brief description of their service, then display them on a bulletin board.
- 
- 



NOVEMBER 11TH-15TH: AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

"Educating minds and inspiring hearts—Thank you for making a difference every day!"

Ideas to try:

- Each day of the week, highlight different staff groups (teachers, support staff, etc.) with special treats or shout-outs.
- Host a breakfast or luncheon to honor all the educators and staff in the building.
- Send personalized thank-you notes to staff members recognizing their specific contributions to students' success.

NOVEMBER 13TH: NATIONAL KINDNESS DAY

"Thank you for spreading joy every day—we appreciate you!"



Ideas to try:

- Challenge your staff and students to perform a random act of kindness or two! Check out [these ideas](#)!
 - Organize a "Wall of Kindness" where staff can post notes of appreciation for each other throughout the day.
 - Hand out "Kindness Coupons" that staff can redeem for fun rewards like a free coffee or extra planning time. Use our printable coupons below!
- 



NOVEMBER 14TH: NATIONAL PICKLE DAY

"We're in a pickle without you—Thank you for being a big dill!"

Ideas to try:

- Set up a snack bar with a variety of pickles and vegetables, along with fun dipping sauces, during lunch.
- Print and hide 10-15 pickle pictures around the school! Reward the staff members who find them with a prize or one of the coupons below!

NOVEMBER 18TH: NATIONAL APPLE CIDER DAY

"You're the apple of our eye—Thank you for making our school great!"

Ideas to try:

- Set up an apple cider (add hot chocolate too) bar with cinnamon sticks, caramel, and whipped cream for a cozy treat.
 - Create a caramel apple bar where staff can make their own apple nachos! Slice apples into wedges and offer various toppings like melted caramel, chocolate sauce, chopped nuts, mini marshmallows, and crushed graham crackers.
- 
- 



NOVEMBER 26TH: NATIONAL CAKE DAY

"You take the cake—Thank you for all that you do!"

Ideas to try:

- Treat staff to a dessert bar with a variety of cakes and cupcakes to enjoy throughout the day. Ask your staff to bring in their favorite cake flavor to share!
- Create a "Cake Cart" and walk around to each classroom to hand out slices of cake or cake pops as an afternoon pick-me-up for your staff!

NOVEMBER 28TH: THANKSGIVING

"Grateful for you today and every day!"



Ideas to try:

- Organize a potluck lunch where everyone brings a dish to share. This is a great way to enjoy a variety of traditional Thanksgiving foods!
 - Create and distribute family baking kits with all the ingredients needed to make a traditional Thanksgiving dessert, like pumpkin pie or cookies. Encourage your staff to spend quality time with their families in the kitchen during the Thanksgiving holiday!
 - Remind your staff how thankful you are for their hard work and dedication to making the school a wonderful place to be, or send them a personal postcard!
- 



PRINTABLES FOR EACH THEME

- **Pages 12 - 22:** Single sign
- **Pages 25 - 36:** Individual tags (four on each page)

PRINTABLE PRIZE COUPONS

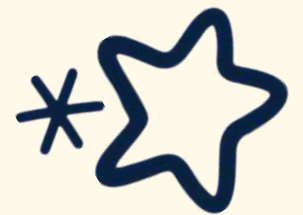
- **Pages 37 - 45:** Print your favorite coupons to have on hand to reward your staff!



**WE'RE FOND(UE)
OF EVERYTHING YOU DO!**

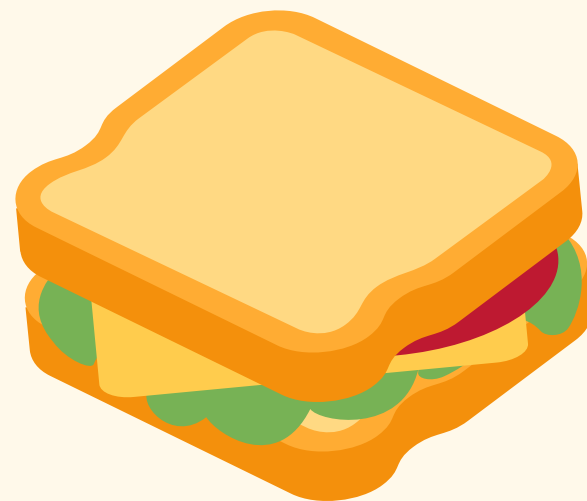


**THANKS FOR
BEING AMAZING!**



WE ARE SO
grateful
FOR YOU!

We appreciate all that you do!



You're the
BEST THING
since sliced bread.

—— We appreciate all that **you** do! ——



WE

DONUT

KNOW WHAT WE'D DO WITHOUT YOU!

— WE APPRECIATE YOU! —





THANKS FOR SPELLING

S₁ U₁ C₃ C₃ E₁ S₁ S₁

EVERY DAY!

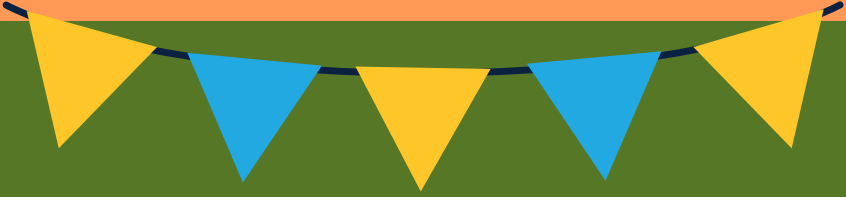
WE APPRECIATE ALL THAT YOU DO FOR OUR SCHOOL!



A decorative border of yellow stars surrounds the central text. The stars are of varying sizes and are arranged in a circular pattern around the text.

HONORING THE
HEROES
IN OUR SCHOOL

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!



**EDUCATING MINDS AND
INSPIRING HEARTS**

**THANK YOU FOR MAKING A
DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY!**



THANK YOU FOR SPREADING

JOY

EVERY DAY



WE APPRECIATE YOU!



We'd be in a pickle without

YOU!



Thank you for
being a big dill!

YOU'RE THE
apple
OF OUR EYE!

THANK YOU FOR MAKING OUR SCHOOL
AWESOME TO THE CORE!



OUR STAFF TAKES THE CAKE



**Thank you for
all that you do!**



We are so
GRATEFUL

for you today and everyday!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

WE'RE FOND(UE)
OF EVERYTHING YOU DO!



**THANKS FOR
BEING AMAZING!**



WE'RE FOND(UE)
OF EVERYTHING YOU DO!



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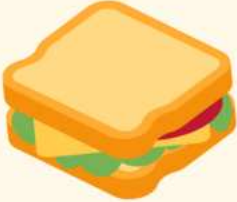
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OF EVERYTHING YOU DO!



**THANKS FOR
BEING AMAZING!**

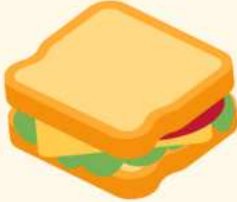






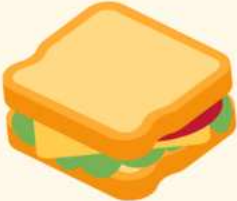
You're the
BEST THING
since sliced bread.

—— We appreciate all that **you** do! ——



You're the
BEST THING
since sliced bread.

—— We appreciate all that **you** do! ——



You're the
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—— We appreciate all that **you** do! ——





A rectangular card with a light yellow background and a black border. The top and sides are decorated with a border of small yellow stars. The text is centered and reads:

HONORING THE
HEROES
IN OUR SCHOOL

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

A rectangular card with a light yellow background and a black border. The top and sides are decorated with a border of small yellow stars. The text is centered and reads:

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HEROES
IN OUR SCHOOL

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

**EDUCATING MINDS AND
INSPIRING HEARTS**

**THANK YOU FOR MAKING A
DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY!**

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**EDUCATING MINDS AND
INSPIRING HEARTS**

**THANK YOU FOR MAKING A
DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY!**

THANK YOU FOR SPREADING

JOY
EVERY DAY



WE APPRECIATE YOU!

THANK YOU FOR SPREADING

JOY
EVERY DAY



WE APPRECIATE YOU!

THANK YOU FOR SPREADING

JOY
EVERY DAY



WE APPRECIATE YOU!

THANK YOU FOR SPREADING

JOY
EVERY DAY



WE APPRECIATE YOU!



We'd be in a pickle without

YOU!



Thank you for
being a big dill!



We'd be in a pickle without

YOU!



Thank you for
being a big dill!



We'd be in a pickle without

YOU!



Thank you for
being a big dill!



We'd be in a pickle without

YOU!



Thank you for
being a big dill!

YOU'RE THE
apple
OF OUR EYE!

THANK YOU FOR MAKING OUR SCHOOL
AWESOME TO THE CORE!



YOU'RE THE
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THANK YOU FOR MAKING OUR SCHOOL
AWESOME TO THE CORE!



OUR STAFF TAKES THE
CAKE



Thank you for
all that you do!

OUR STAFF TAKES THE
CAKE



Thank you for
all that you do!

OUR STAFF TAKES THE
CAKE



Thank you for
all that you do!

OUR STAFF TAKES THE
CAKE



Thank you for
all that you do!



We are so
GRATEFUL
for you today and everyday!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



We are so
GRATEFUL
for you today and everyday!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



We are so
GRATEFUL
for you today and everyday!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



We are so
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for you today and everyday!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

A blue stethoscope graphic, positioned vertically on the right side of the page. It features a dark blue tube that loops around and ends in a dark blue chest piece. The background is a light blue color with faint, stylized white patterns, including a large 'A' and a smiley face.



LEAVE 30 MINUTES EARLY!

Turn this in for 30 minutes of
coverage at the end of the day!

NAME: _____

DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____



LEAVE 30 MINUTES EARLY!

Turn this in for 30 minutes of
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DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____



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Turn this in for 30 minutes of
coverage at the end of the day!

NAME: _____

DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____



SKIP DUTY FOR A DAY!

Turn this in for free duty coverage!

NAME: _____
DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____
TIME/TYPE OF COVERAGE: _____



SKIP DUTY FOR A DAY!

Turn this in for free duty coverage!

NAME: _____
DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____
TIME/TYPE OF COVERAGE: _____



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DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____
TIME/TYPE OF COVERAGE: _____



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NAME: _____
DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____
TIME/TYPE OF COVERAGE: _____



COZY & COMFY!

Turn this in for a pajama day for
you and your students!

NAME: _____

DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____



COZY & COMFY!

Turn this in for a pajama day for
you and your students!

NAME: _____

DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____



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NAME: _____

DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____



EXTRA PLAN TIME

Turn this in for coverage for an extra
30 minutes of plan time!

NAME: _____

DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____



EXTRA PLAN TIME

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30 minutes of plan time!

NAME: _____

DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____



EXTRA PLAN TIME

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DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____



EXTRA PLAN TIME

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30 minutes of plan time!

NAME: _____

DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____



V.I.P. PARKING

Turn this in for a front row parking
spot all week long!

NAME: _____
WEEK REQUESTED: _____



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Turn this in for a front row parking
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NAME: _____
WEEK REQUESTED: _____



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NAME: _____
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NAME: _____
WEEK REQUESTED: _____



ROOM SERVICE

Write down your favorite snack and
drink, and turn it in for a special
delivery soon!

NAME: _____

SNACK: _____

DRINK: _____



ROOM SERVICE

Write down your favorite snack and
drink, and turn it in for a special
delivery soon!

NAME: _____

SNACK: _____

DRINK: _____



ROOM SERVICE

Write down your favorite snack and
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NAME: _____

SNACK: _____

DRINK: _____



ROOM SERVICE

Write down your favorite snack and
drink, and turn it in for a special
delivery soon!

NAME: _____

SNACK: _____

DRINK: _____



30 MINUTE LATE START!

Turn this in for 30 minutes of
coverage at the beginning of
the day and sleep in!

NAME: _____

DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____



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Turn this in for 30 minutes of
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NAME: _____

DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____



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Turn this in for 30 minutes of
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NAME: _____

DATE(S) REQUESTED: _____



ESPRESSO EXPRESS

Write down your go-to coffee order,
and soon you'll receive a special
delivery that'll add some pep to
your step!

NAME: _____

ORDER: _____

*Not a coffee fan? Tell us your favorite smoothie, tea, or
soda order instead!



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Write down your go-to coffee order,
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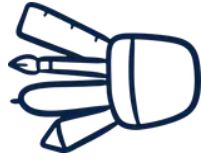
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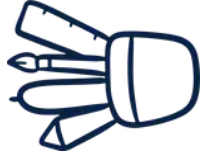


CLASSROOM REFILL

Turn in this coupon for a supply
refresh! Choose any item(s) under
\$10—because great teaching
deserves great supplies!

NAME: _____

SUPPLY REQUEST: _____

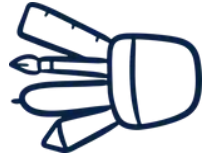


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NAME: _____

SUPPLY REQUEST: _____

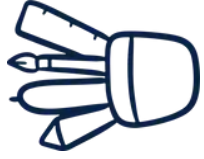


CLASSROOM REFILL

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\$10—because great teaching
deserves great supplies!

NAME: _____

SUPPLY REQUEST: _____



CLASSROOM REFILL

Turn in this coupon for a supply
refresh! Choose any item(s) under
\$10—because great teaching
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NAME: _____

SUPPLY REQUEST: _____

ADD A FUN GAME TO THE SCHOOL DAY!

Try this Connect Four activity to get people chatting with colleagues and help build a stronger sense of community. The challenge of finding their group to win a prize adds some extra excitement to the day!

